

FROM : STEN GERFAST

PHONE NO. : 6514541923

Feb. 07 2006 12:20PM P1

571-273-8300

FAX ~~703-872-9306~~ ATT: JERMIE COZART FEB 7-06

TO: JERMIE COZART

RE: ADVISORY FEB 2-06

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PATENT EXAMINER : ART UNIT 3726

I WOULD LIKE TO CALL YOU AND DISCUSS PAT. APPL. 10/706,416  
AT 1.30 PM ON THURSDAY FEB 9TH. IF THIS IS NOT  
CONVENIENT FOR YOU, PLEASE FAX-BACK (651-454-1923)

I APPARENTLY MISUNDERSTOOD YOUR OBJECTION TO CLAIM 6  
THAT WOULD BE ALLOWABLE IF REWRITTEN IN INDEPENDENT FORM;  
AND WOULD PROPOSE:

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

FEB 07 2006

15. (Replaces claim 6) (currently amended) Butt-joining method comprising:

In two abutting metal strips punching a substantially keystone shaped slot into both abutments,  
wherein said slots have two rounded edges produced by both a punch and a die,  
inserting into said two slots a deformable slug, clinching said slug into said slots,  
thereby securely butt-joining said strips.

WITH CLAIM 7-14

THEN BEING RE-WITTEN

TO OVERCOME THE IIR REJECTION.

TO ALLEVIATE  
THE HIRAO ET AL  
REJECTION

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

Sten Gerfast

FEB 7-06

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